

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 21-30 are pending in the application, with claims 21, 29 and 30 being the independent claims. New claims 22-30 are sought to be added. Applicant has also amended the Abstract to accommodate the Examiner's objection. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

With respect to this Application, Applicant hereby rescinds any disclaimer of claim scope made in the parent application or any predecessor or related application. The Examiner is advised that any previous disclaimer of claim scope, if any, and the alleged prior art that it was made to allegedly avoid, may need to be revisited. Nor should any previous disclaimer of claim scope, if any, in this Application be read back into any predecessor or related application.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,157,918. Applicant has amended claim 21. Accordingly, Applicant's respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and that claim 21 be passed to allowance.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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